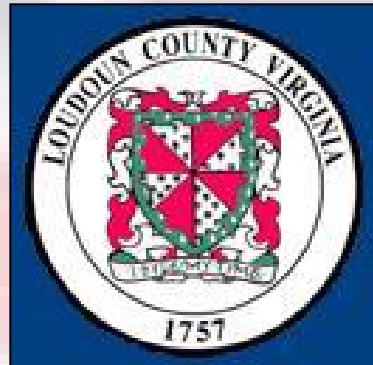


# **LOUDOUN COUNTY**



## **State of Emergency Planning and Preparedness**

**Presentation to the Leesburg Town Council - May 23, 2006**

**Presented by: Kirby M. Bowers, County Administrator**

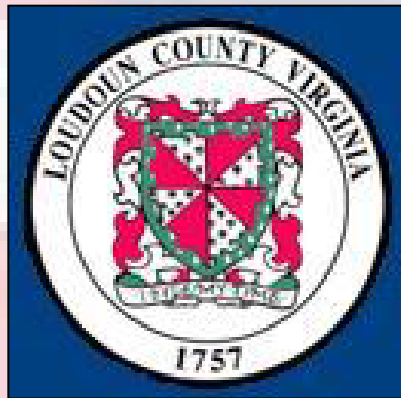
# Presentation Overview

- Where is Loudoun County since 9/11?
- Who is in charge?
- Evacuation
- Special Populations
- Communications
- Action Plan

# **Where was Loudoun County Prior to 9/11?**

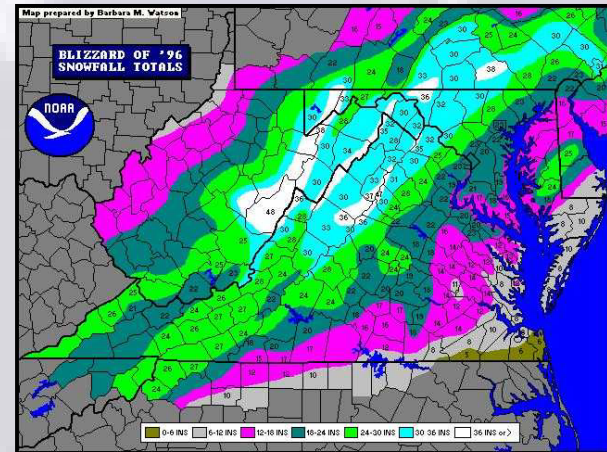
- Office of Emergency Management (OEM)
- Mutual Aid Plans
- Participated in Washington Metropolitan Council of Government (WMCOG)
- Experienced in responding to and recovery from emergencies

# **Where is Loudoun County Since 9/11?**



# “All Hazards Approach”

- Loudoun County uses an “all hazards” approach to emergency management



# Where is Loudoun County Since 9/11?

- OEM Reorganized
- Additional staff added
- Federal, State & Local Partners:
  - Collaborate better
  - Plan better
  - Prepare better
  - Respond better



# Where is Loudoun County Since 9/11?

- Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) Revised & Adopted in 2004
- Board Re-instituted Public Safety Committee in 2004
- County Administrator created the Emergency Management Executive Committee (EMEC)
- National Incident Management System (NIMS) adopted with focus on annual compliance mandates.
- Mobile Emergency Command Centers Fully-Operational (MECCs)
- Creation of a Pandemic Flu Task Force

# Where is Loudoun County Since 9/11?

- Upgraded the Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
  - New Video Conferencing System
  - New Connectivity
  - Upgraded computer and telephone hardware in the EOC
  - Pursuing relocation of the EOC.





# Where is Loudoun County Since 9/11?

- Use of Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI), NCR
  - Region \$22 M
  - Loudoun County \$3.0 M+
  - More funds to come



# Where is Loudoun County Since 9/11?

- Other Emergency Management  
Federal/State Grant  
Funds
  - Fire and Rescue Services  
\$3.7M
  - Sheriff's Office \$1.4 M
  - Health \$750,000
  - MHMRSAS \$1.12 M
  - General Services \$70,000

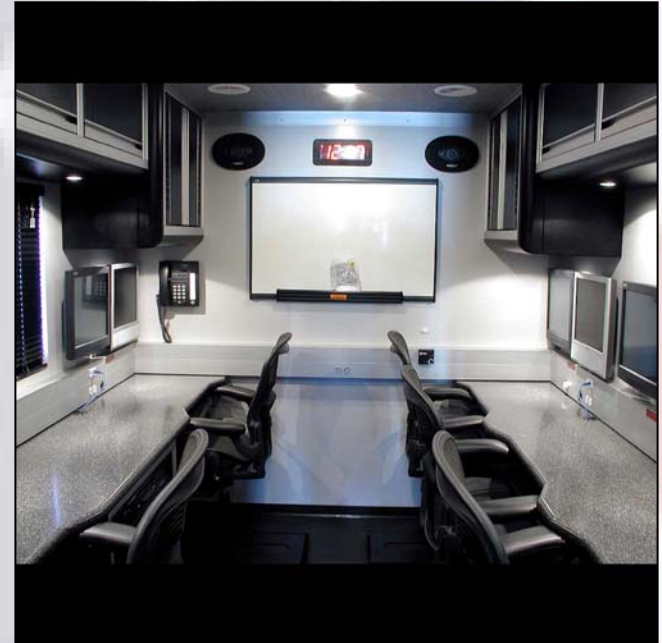


# Where is Loudoun County Since 9/11?

- Various Positions Established:

- Fire and Rescue Services
  - Emergency Mgmt Specialist
  - Events Coordinator
  - Administrative Assistant
- Sheriff's Office
  - Emergency Mgmt Coordinator
- Loudoun Co. Public Schools
  - Asst. Safety & Security Coordinator
  - Safety & Security Spec at High Schools & Vo-Tech
- Information Technology
  - Programmer Analyst
  - Systems Programmer
- General Services
  - Emergency Operations and Plans Manager
- Health
  - Emergency Planner
  - Epidemiologist

- Medical Reserve Corps Coordinator
- Pandemic Flu Health Educator



# Where is Loudoun County Since 9/11?

- Sheriff's Office

- Patrol Program

- Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF)
    - Ability to increase intensity as threat levels increase





# Where is Loudoun County Since 9/11?

## Fire, Rescue and Emergency Management – Operational Response Plans:

- Standardized NIMS Incident Command Procedures
- Standardized Incident Operational Response Procedures
- Standardized Operational Procedures For CBRNE and Hazardous Materials
- Increased Training in Terrorism and Response to CBRNE / WMD Events
- Haz-Mat Team Trained to Offensive Response Level



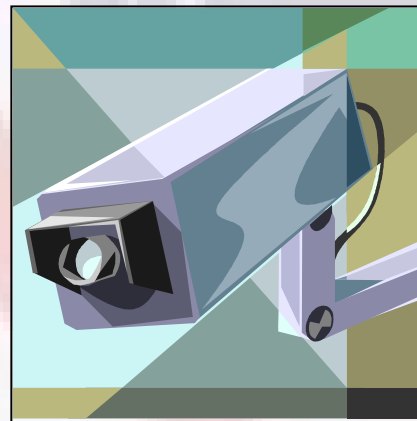
# Where is Loudoun County Since 9/11?

- **Special Events**
  - Safe & Secure Events Planning
    - Special Events Advisory Council established
    - Better tracking of events to improve coordination of County services and public safety interaction
    - Provide organizers with a point of contact to facilitate permitting process



# Where is Loudoun County Since 9/11?

- General Services
  - First Responder status recognized by Feds/State
  - Stormwater Operations
  - Mobile Generators
  - Remote Video/Still Cameras



# Where is Loudoun County Since 9/11?

- Information Technology
  - Public Safety Radio System
    - 800 MHz Voice Radio System
      - Sheriff's Office
      - Fire and Rescue Services
      - Animal Care & Control
      - Leesburg, Purcellville and Middleburg Police
    - 3 Additional 800 MHz channels added
    - 250+ Mobile Data Computers





# Where is Loudoun County Since 9/11?

- Loudoun Co. Public Schools
  - Additional Security Cameras
  - “Sheltering in Place”
  - “Lock Down” Procedures
  - Instituted Environmental Control Measures



# Where is Loudoun County Since 9/11?

- **Mutual Aid Agreements in Effect:**

- Fauquier County
- Prince William County
- Clarke County
- Department of Homeland Security, Mount Weather EAC
- Northern Virginia Emergency Services Agreement  
*Arlington County, Fairfax County, Fairfax City, Alexandria, MWAA, Ft Belvoir, Ft Meyer*
- Metropolitan Washington Council Of Governments  
*Frederick County Maryland, Montgomery County Maryland, District of Columbia*
- Friendship Fire Company, National Park Service, Harpers Ferry W.V.
- Statewide mutual aid agreement
- EMAC – Emergency Management Assistance Compact

Mutual Aid Agreements in Progress:

- Jefferson County, WV
- Washington County, MD

# Where is Loudoun County Since 9/11?

- Loudoun Co. Health
  - PotomEX 2005 Exercise
    - October 22, 2005
    - Mass Immunization Dispensing Exercise
    - Local High School
    - Part of the Virginia Health Department Preparedness and Response Plan
    - Over 745 patients served



# Where is Loudoun County Since 9/11?

- Loudoun Co. Health
  - Medical Reserve Corps
    - Over 600 members
    - Activated to support Hurricane Katrina, 2004 mass flu clinic and PotomEX 05 exercise
  - Communicable Disease Division
    - Created in 2004
    - Designed to better identify and prevent the spread of disease in Loudoun County



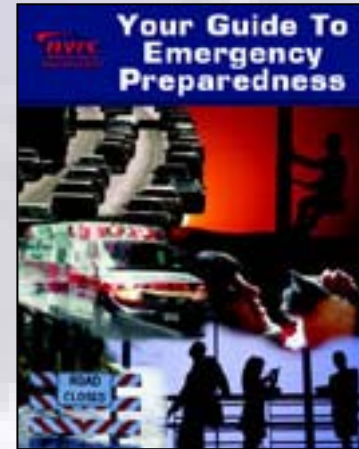
# Where is Loudoun County Since 9/11?

- Loudoun Co. Health
  - Pandemic Flu Preparations
    - Formed the Loudoun County Pandemic Flu Preparedness Task Force
    - Creating a local pandemic influenza plan
    - Conducting outreach to business, medical, faith and other communities
    - CodeFlu 06 pandemic flu exercise planned for October 21

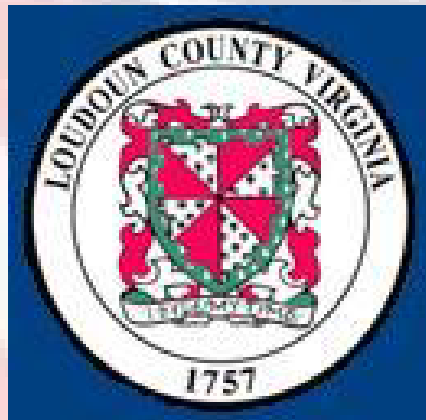


# Where is Loudoun County Since 9/11?

- Increased Public Outreach
  - Northern Virginia Regional “Your Guide to Emergency Preparedness”
- Increased Exercises & Training
  - VERTEX 06; Patriot Challenge II
  - NIMS/ICS Training and Emergency Management Courses



# Who is in Charge?





# Who is in Charge During a Local Declaration of Emergency?

- All emergencies are local
- The Board of Supervisors approves the declaration of emergency
- County Administrator serves as the Director of Emergency Management (VA Code § 44-146.19)
- There is a regularly designed system for requesting resources:
  - Local to Local
  - Local to State
  - State to Federal



# Who is in Charge?

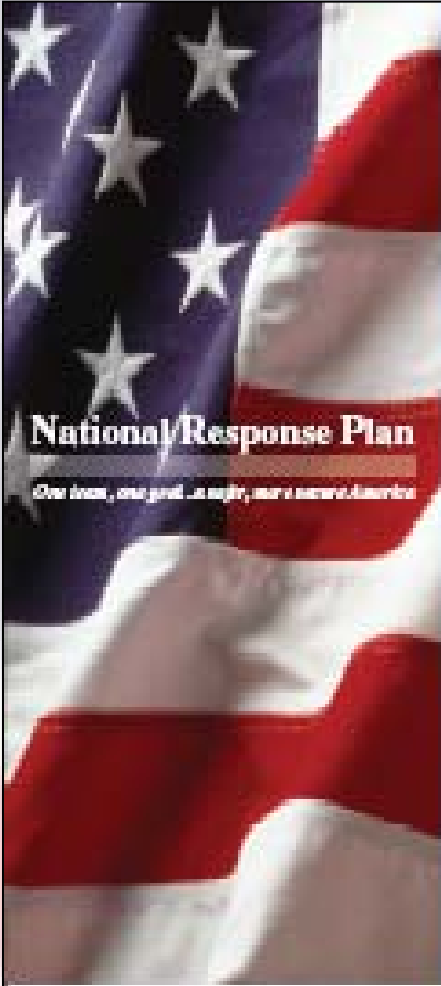
- Everyone has a role in emergencies:
  - Board of Supervisors/Town Council
  - County Administrator/Town Mgr.
  - County/Town employees
  - Residents
  - Businesses



[makeaplan.org](http://makeaplan.org)

# Who is in Charge?

## Use of the National Response Plan, Incident Command Structure (ICS) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS)



**National Response Plan**

*One team, one goal, a safer, more secure America*

**All-Disaster, All-Elements Plan**

The National Response Plan (NRP) is an all-disaster, all-elements plan that establishes a single, comprehensive framework for the management of domestic disasters. It provides the structure and mechanisms for the coordination of Federal, state, local, and tribal incident management efforts involving those Federal activities and organizations. The NRP establishes the Department's interagency system of primary responsibilities within the United States, including the responsibilities of Federal and non-Federal entities, and establishing the damage and aiding in the recovery from any type of incident or event.

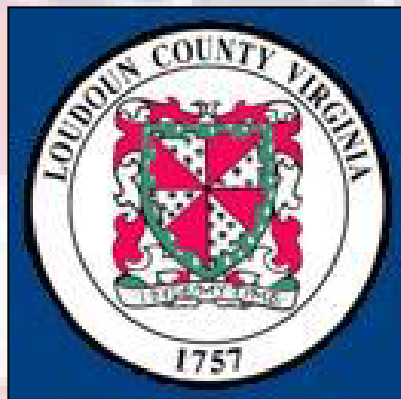
**Incidents of National Significance**

The NRP provides the coordination for a comprehensive coordinated response to all incidents of National Significance. Incidents of National Significance are high-impact events that require an extensive and well-coordinated multi-agency response to save lives, protect the people, and provide the basis for long-term recovery and economic recovery. As the principal Federal authority for domestic incident management, the Department of Homeland Security defines Incidents of National Significance (in coordination with other departments and agencies as appropriate).

**All-Inclusive Development Process**

The President of the United States directs the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to develop and establish the NRP. The Plan was drafted by a working group consisting of Federal, State, local, tribal, private sector, and intergovernmental and other groups.

# Evacuation



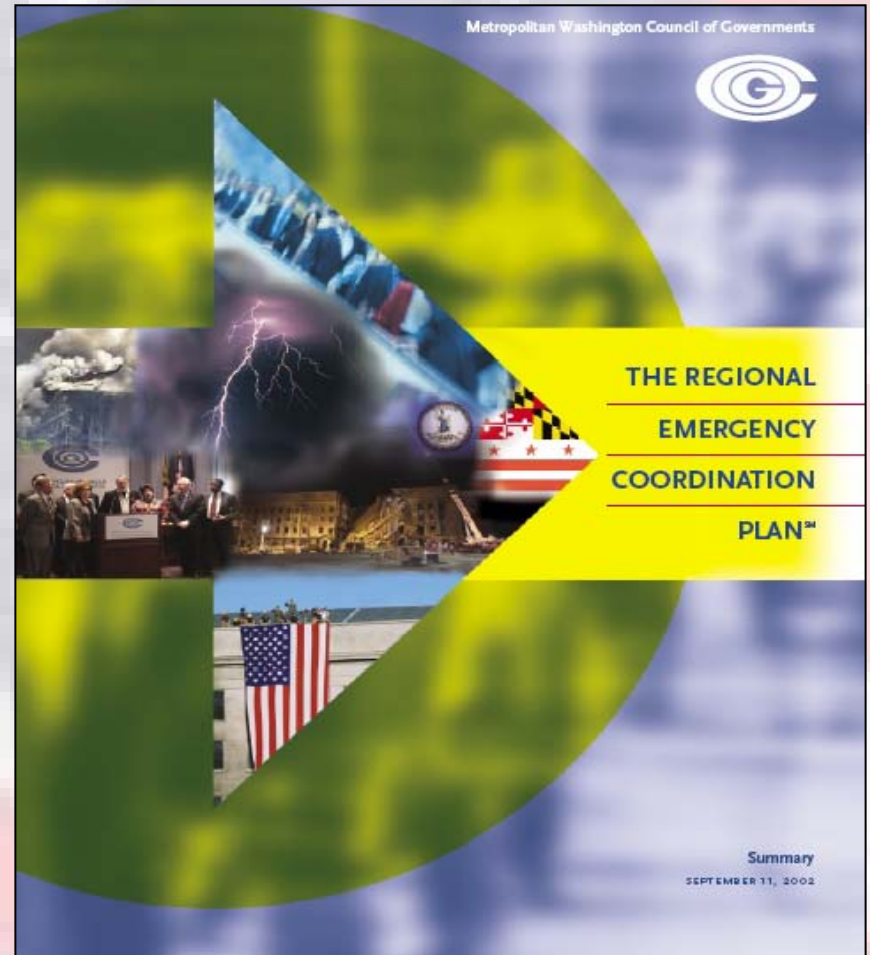
# Evacuation

- Residents should plan to stay in place unless told otherwise to leave by County Government Officials
- Most likely evacuations would be selected, or staged, not full scale
- VDOT, which owns and maintains County roads, is working with the District of Columbia and other localities on evacuation planning



# Evacuation

- If there is a major event in the region, the County coordinates with VDOT, other localities and regional partners.
- Loudoun County is a partner in the development and continued review of a regional emergency coordination plan and an evacuation annex.





# Evacuation

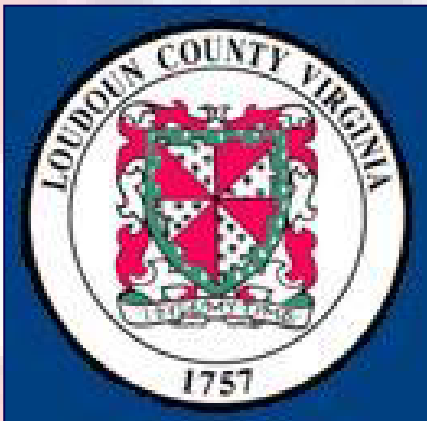
- County's Emergency Operations Plan will identify procedures for citizens to evacuate and/or shelter domestic animals.



# Medication Dispensing Sites

- If needed, Loudoun County is prepared to vaccinate or distribute medications to every Loudoun County resident within 4 days.
- Distribution may occur through fixed dispensing sites, “drive through” sites or other means to best serve the public.
- LCPS and County Website (Health Dept and OTS) would publish emergency routes.
- Public Information Office personnel would work with area media to publicize the pick-up schedule for residents through normal communication channels

# Special Populations





# Special Populations

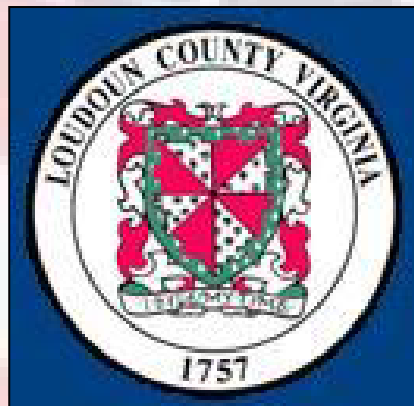
- People reliant on public transportation
- People with disabilities
- People communicating in languages other than English
- People who are economically disadvantaged
- People who are incarcerated
- People affected by the digital divide
- People in medical facilities
- Children separated from parents
- Animals

# Animals

- Pet identification necessary in reuniting lost animals with owners during emergencies.
- Emergency Veterinary Care facilities established to provide triage and medical care and housing for animals.
- Coordinating housing facilities for displaced citizens and their pets.
- Assemble a pet emergency survival kit.

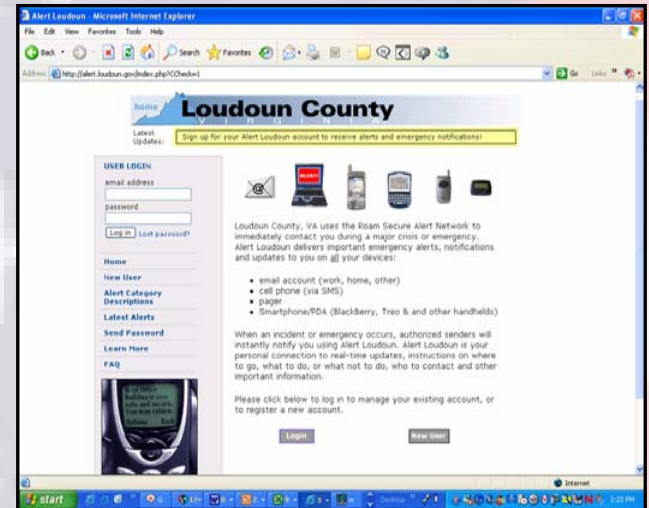


# Communications



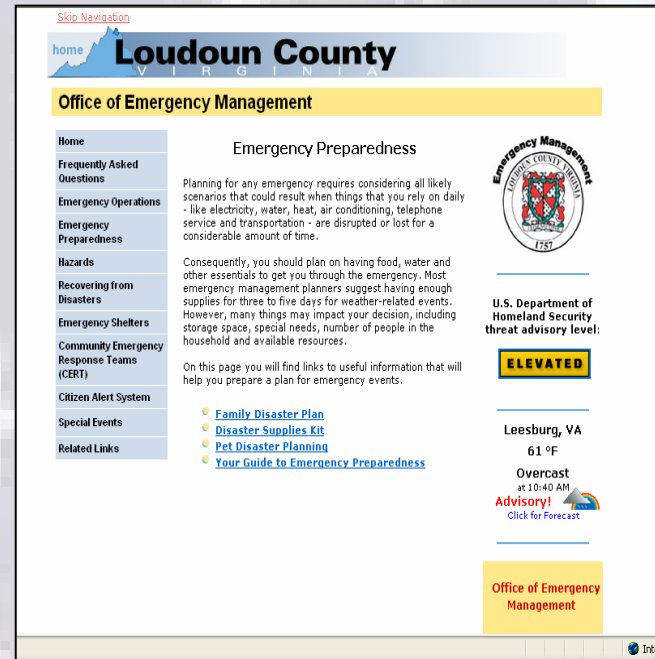
# Communications

- Loudoun Citizen Alert System
- Roam Secure
- Reverse 911
- EAS Messaging Capability
- Local Media
- Adelphia Channel 2 & 3 Bulletin Boards
- NOAA All-hazards Weather Radio



# Communications

- County Website
  - Emergency Preparedness Web Page
    - Useful links:
      - FEMA
      - LCFR
      - CDC
      - Ready Plans
      - National Weather Services
      - VDEM
      - VDH





# Communications

- Fliers, posters, etc.
- Door-to-door delivery
  - public safety employees
  - volunteers
  - networks



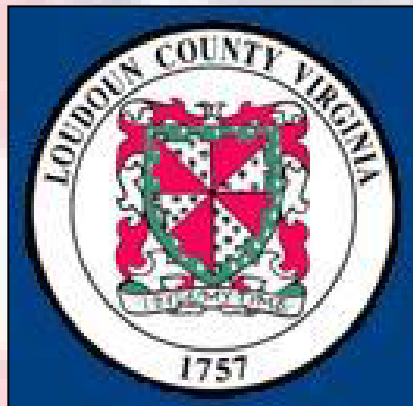
# Communications

- RICCS – Regional Electronic Communications Network
- National Capital Regional Interoperability Program
- Regional WebEOC Project



**WebEOC® 6.2** **ESI**

# Plan of Action





# **Plan of Action**

- Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP)
- Disaster Recovery Plan
- Department Specific Plans
- Interoperability network links
- Resource Plans

# Plan of Action

- Review after-action reports
- Close any known identified gaps
- Increase level of training
- Adopt best-practice, performance-based approaches

# Plan of Action

- Continually update the EOP
- Maintain compliance with NIMS and National Response Plan
- Support staff work with other regional and local partners
- Support staff performance in leadership roles

# Plan of Action

- Use available and future funding to improve communication capabilities
- Participate in National Capital Region strategic planning efforts
- Strive for optimal balance of preparedness capabilities across the County

# Plan of Action

- Maintain and improve our capacity
- Partner with special needs groups and organization
- Assess evolving technology
- Support Countywide and regional exercises
- Prepare for a widespread outbreak of disease

# The Need to Prepare

- There are 2,000+ Loudoun First Responders to serve over 250,000 residents
- Every citizen has an important role in emergency preparedness
- Every business and resident should have an emergency preparedness plan
- Residents and businesses should have supplies at their locations
- Learn about the emergency plans at your children's school



# Additional Resources

- **County's website** – [www.loudoun.gov](http://www.loudoun.gov)
- **Office of Emergency Management** - Available to present programs on emergency preparedness; 703-777-2243
- **Office of Public Information** - Prepares and distributes information on emergency preparedness; 703-777-0113
- **Volunteer Services Program** - Provides information about volunteer opportunities for emergency preparedness efforts; 703-777-0113
- **Health Department** - Available to present programs on ways citizens can stay safe from disease; 703-771-5829